United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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IN REPLY REFER TO: 2200 (NV-930) P

March 20, 2000

EMS Transmission 3-21-2000 Instruction Memorandum No. NV-2000-039 Expires: 9/30/2001

To: Field Managers, Nevada (except Las Vegas and Ely)

From: State Director, Nevada

Subject: Nevada Land and Resource Company (NLRC) Exchanges

The purpose of this Instruction Memorandum is to establish Nevada BLM's position in the land exchange process involving NLRC. If the public interests are well served, the BLM is interested in exchanging lands where checkerboard land patterns include former railroad lands held by NLRC across northern Nevada. Currently, there is no formal exchange proposal involving the affected BLM offices statewide.

The NLRC land exchanges involving multiple Nevada BLM offices will continue to be considered by the Field Offices. To confirm that we comply with current BLM policy, the NSO will consult with our National Land Exchange Team as to the best strategy for consistency with our current land exchange process. Currently, we are not in a position to conduct a statewide feasibility report. To comply with current BLM policy in WO-IM-99-126, a State Director approved feasibility report, draft agreement to initiate (exchange), and draft notice of exchange proposal should be prepared by Carson City Field Office (CCFO) and sent through the Nevada State Office to WO-300 for concurrence in processing NLRC exchanges where Federal values exceed an estimated \$500,000. The feasibility report should be completed prior to completion of any substantive processing of exchanges.

The current Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CCFO and NLRC addresses BLM's exchange transaction for the CCFO only. This MOU will be used in preparing the feasibility report and processing an exchange proposal involving the Pah Rah Mountains. Separate exchange arrangements and their respective agreements will be worked out between NLRC and other BLM Field Offices consistent with BLM policy. The decision to provide land credits to cover NLRC costs of processing will be made on a case-by-case basis by the State Director.

If you have any questions, please contact Meg Jensen, Deputy State Director, Natural Resources, Lands and Planning or Jim Stobaugh, Lands Team Lead in the NSO.

Signed By; Robert V. Abbey State Director, Nevada Authenticated By: Deborah Spitale Staff Assistant